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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

1997-98

Senate

Committee on Education...

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... CR
- Executive Sessions ... ES
- Public Hearings ... PH

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... Appt (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)

(ab = Assembly Bill)

(ar = Assembly Resolution)

(air = Assembly Joint Resolution)

(sb = Senate Bill)

(**sr** = Senate Resolution)

(sjr = Senate Joint Resolution)

Miscellaneous ... Misc

^{*} Contents organized for archiving by: Stefanie Rose (LRB) (December 2012)

Senate

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Education

Senate Bill 364

Relating to: creating a professional standards council for teachers. Joint Legislative Council.

November 26, 1997 Referred to committee on Education.

December 10, 1997 PUBLIC HEARING HELD

Present: (7) Senators C. Potter, Jauch, Shibilski,

Grobschmidt, Darling, Huelsman and Roessler.

Absent: (0) None.

Appearances for

- Senator Rick Grobschmidt
- Peter Burke for DPI
- Jack Kean for UW-Madison and Wisconsin Association of Colleges of Teacher Education
- Charles Lentz for WEAC
- LuAnn Bird of Oshkosh

Appearances against

- Senn Brown for Wisconsin Association of School Boards
- Victor Miller of Watertown

Appearances for Information Only

 Sharon Schmeling for Professional Standards Council for Teachers

Registrations for

- Senator Brian Rude
- Jamie Kuhn for United Council of UW Students

Registrations against

• None.

December 10, 1997 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Present: (7) Senators C. Potter, Jauch, Shibilski, Grobschmidt, Darling, Huelsman and Roessler. Absent: (0) None.

Moved by Senator Grobschmidt, seconded by Senator Roessler, that LRBs1289/1 be recommended for introduction and adoption.

Ayes: (7) Senator C. Potter, Jauch, Shibilski, Grobschmidt, Darling, Huelsman and Roessler.

Noes: (0) None. Absent: (0) None.

INTRODUCTION AND ADOPTION RECOMMENDED, Ayes 7, Noes 0, Absent 0

Moved by Senator Grobschmidt, seconded by Senator Roessler, that **Senate Bill 364** be recommended for passage as amended.

Ayes: (5) Senators C. Potter, Jauch, Shibilski, Grobschmidt and Roessler.

Noes: (2) Senators Darling and Huelsman.

Absent: (0) None.

PASSAGE AS AMENDED RECOMMENDED, Ayes 5, Noes 2, Absent 0

Paul Rusk Committee Clerk

Senate Committee on Education

Date:	E	xecutive S	Session	Public H	learing
Moved by: Rosson Motion: State Sewing Squeen Squeen	tle (Seconde M W N	dby: I Im A W ap	panli ppoliti	ry Horent
Committee Member Sen. Calvin Potter, Chair Sen. Robert Jauch Sen. Kevin Shibilski Sen. Richard Grobschmidt Sen. Alberta Darling Sen. Joanne Huelsman Sen. Carol Roessler Totals:	Aye	No	Absent	Preser	nt Absent
Motion C	arried			d	

Committee Meeting Attendance Sheet

Senate Committee on Education

Date: Dec 10 Meeting Type	e: <u>H0</u>	only	·
Location: John Fina	mee K	hen	
Committee Member Sen. Calvin Potter, Chair Sen. Robert Jauch	Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Kevin Shibilski Sen. Richard Grobschmidt Sen. Alberta Darling Sen. Joanne Huelsman Sen. Carol Roessler			
Totals:		beautinessed.	

Paulle R

Paul Rusk, Committee Clerk

Senate Committee on Education

Date: Dec 1097	IZ FV			De de li e d	
Bill Number: Moved by: Motion: SB 364	1	Seconde		Public H	Wish
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Committee Member Sen. Calvin Potter, Chair Sen. Robert Jauch Sen. Kevin Shibilski Sen. Richard Grobschmidt Sen. Alberta Darling Sen. Joanne Huelsman Sen. Carol Roessler		No	Absent	Presen	t Absent
Totals:					
Motion (Carried		Motion Failed	٦	



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Date:	Ex-	ecutive S	ession	Public H	earing
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Motion: Mow To	ue o	(h)	the 1	AND U	ciappor
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Committee Member Sen. Calvin Potter, Chair Sen. Robert Jauch Sen. Kevin Shibilski Sen. Richard Grobschmidt Sen. Alberta Darling Sen. Joanne Huelsman Sen. Carol Roessler	Aye	No	Absent	Presen	t Absent
Totals:					

Motion Failed

Motion Carried

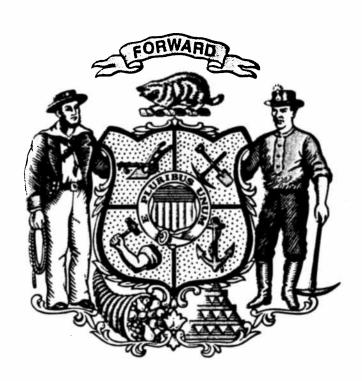
Final

Senate Committee on Education

Date: ·	Exc	ecutive Se	ession	Public H	earing
Bill Number: Moved by: Drob	,	.	D	enla	
Motion:		Seconded	d by:	2/-	7

Committee Member	Aye	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Presen</u>	<u>t Absent</u>
Sen. Calvin Potter, Chair					
Sen. Robert Jauch					
Sen. Kevin Shibilski	V,				
Sen. Richard Grobschmidt					
Sen. Alberta Darling					
Sen. Joanne Huelsman					
Sen. Carol Roessler					
Totals:	5	2	***************************************		

Motion Carried Motion Failed





SPECIAL NOTICE

SCHOOL BOARDS, INC 122 W. Washington Ave. • Madison, WI 53703 • Phone: 608-257-2622 • Fax: 608-257-8386

To: State Senator Richard Grobschmidt, Chair, and Members of the Legislative Council

Special Committee on Teacher Preparation, Licensure and Regulation

From: Senn Brown, Director of Legislative Services

Date: December 20, 1996

Bill Cosh and I enjoyed the opportunity to meet yesterday with your special committee.

Your committee discussed a proposal to create a state professional standards board, somewhat independent from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, that would determine the preparatory standards for teacher certification.

In light of that discussion, we thought your committee members would be interested in reviewing the enclosed copy of the DPI administrative rule (PI 3.69) relating to the state superintendent's Advisory Council on Teacher Education and Licensure. This council has existed for many years to advise state superintendents and the DPI on teacher and administrator preparation and certification policies. In addition to the council, state superintendents have appointed special task forces and committees to study teacher education and licensure issues. Educators and other professionals have been involved extensively in these councils and task forces. Recommendations of the Advisory Council are considered by the state superintendent when he/she proposes administrative rule changes in PI 3 and PI 4 relating to teacher licensure and the program approval process. The administrative rules process, including public hearings, affords educators and other citizens with opportunities to obtain information and offer comments. The legislature has oversight responsibility, also, in the administrative rules procedure.

Your special committee's discussion relating to the creation of an independent council on teacher preparation and licensure was interesting in light of the recent decision of the Wisconsin Supreme Court relating to the Constitutional office of the elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Court concluded that 1995 Wis. Act 27 unconstitutionally gave the former powers of the elected state superintendent of public instruction to appointed "other officers" at the state level who are not subordinate to the superintendent.

As we mentioned to your committee, the WASB opposes teacher certification controlled by a professional practices board, but would support a plan providing for a statutory advisory committee to the state superintendent, including parents, school board members and other interested groups, providing for final decisions by the state superintendent.

Thanks again for inviting the WASB to offer comments to your committee.

cc: State Superintendent John Benson
Senator Cal Potter & Representative Luther Olsen
Nancy Thompson, WASB President, & Ken Cole, WASB Executive Director

TESTIMONY BY INVITED SPEAKERS [AGENDA ITEM 5]

a. Senn Brown and William Cosh, Wisconsin Association of School Boards

Senn Brown briefly reviewed the information distributed by the Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB). He indicated in his remarks that WASB generally supports the 1995 Task Force Report of the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). He indicated the need to increase the reliance on performance-based preparation. Mr. Brown also indicated the association's general support for the three-tier licensing groups as well as for the need for broader licensing categories and greater involvement of schools with professional development requirements.

Mr. Brown also reviewed the difference between statutory provisions and administrative rules as they relate to teacher regulation. He summarized the basic statutes that apply to teacher regulation and also outlined the extensive requirements contained in the administrative rules promulgated by the DPI (PI 3 and PI 4). During his testimony, Mr. Brown indicated that there may be a need to review the various requirements contained in the teacher licensing statutes to assure they continue to have validity. He cited, in particular, the requirement that teachers be trained in the importance of cooperatives.

Mr. Brown also suggested that the alternative certification statute contained in s. 118.192 was essentially unusable and had not been drafted in a way that would permit people to actually or readily obtain certification. He suggested that the Committee might consider possible changes to this statute and cited the following possible changes: (1) that preparation classes be held during the year, not only during the summer; (2) that a national examination not be required; and (3) that the alternative licensing fields be broadened to include music, art, foreign language and computer science, as well as other possible subjects.

Mr. Brown, during his remarks, commented generally on the professional practices boards that have been proposed. He raised a question regarding the policy of having a joint appointment of the Governor and State Superintendent when currently the State Superintendent has the exclusive power to make such appointments. He noted that the existing teacher education advisory council is active and generally functions well. Mr. Brown, in response to a question, indicated that the association could support the creation of a beginning- and master-level teacher proposal, though there may be questions about whether the changes should be made in the statutes or under the administrative rule process. Finally, Mr. Brown indicated that the teachers are finding new ways to get to school and new and innovative ways are needed to allow school districts to deliver the best possible education to the students.

Mr. Cosh presented information relating to distance education and suggested the need for greater emphasis on the development of policies in this area. He indicated that there was a great deal of potential for the use of distance education in the elementary and secondary schools of this state. Mr. Cosh noted that DPI requires school districts to operate under a restrictive DPI "policy" relating to distance education. He questioned whether it was wise to preclude the use of distance education for grades 1 to 8 or for the use of any "core" courses. He further questioned

the restriction that distance education must be provided by teachers licensed in the jurisdiction in which the course is presented. He stated as an example that this DPI policy limited the ability to import courses in foreign languages from other states.

Mr. Cosh also suggested that technology be made part of the teacher preparation in colleges. He stated that it was necessary to prepare new teachers and existing teachers for appropriate use of technology and, in his opinion, the preparation should be part of the requirement for initial licensure as well as for renewal.

Mr. Cosh was asked how he would balance the ability to use the alternative "faster" route to licensure for those students as compared to the standard "slower" route through colleges for other teachers. Mr. Cosh acknowledged that this was a concern that may have to be addressed in any alternative licensing proposal.

Chairperson Grobschmidt questioned the policy of licensing engineers to teach if such persons are neither good teachers nor good engineers. Mr. Cosh indicated that this may be a problem but that he viewed it as the same as for other licenses. In response to a question of the use of the provisional licenses for persons who are not fully qualified, Mr. Cosh indicated that this option was simply not a reasonable alternative for all persons who would like to teach in the schools.

Senator Rude asked about tendency of teachers moving out of the classrooms into administrative positions. Mr. Brown responded that this has occurred in the past, but there is some evidence currently of teachers not going into available principal slots. He stated that perhaps this is signaling a new trend in the educational field. Mr. Natzke suggested that additional advanced spots for teachers could further preclude such movement into administrative positions.

In response to a question of how professional development plans are monitored, Mr. Brown suggested that these plans could be subject to greater regulation by school boards and be tied to specific district focus areas. He suggested the possibility of using these focus areas for renewals and possibly for compensation plans.

b. Charles N. Lentz, Executive Secretary, Wisconsin Education Association Council.

Mr. Lentz distributed a packet of materials relating to the position of the Wisconsin Education Association Council (WEAC) relating to teacher preparation. Mr. Lentz began his presentation with a brief summary of the nature of his organization and the overall goals and objectives of WEAC. He indicated that the WEAC proposal to create a professional standards board was being suggested in order to address the need for appropriate structural framework to serve public education in Wisconsin. Mr. Lentz reviewed the conceptual framework of such a board and outlined the following functions and responsibilities that could be assigned to such a board:

(1) To provide an ongoing assessment of complexity of teaching and the status of the teaching profession in Wisconsin;

- (2) To establish the certification standards necessary to ensure effective teaching of a relevant curriculum for Wisconsin students;
- (3) To advise teacher preparation institutions in Wisconsin's colleges and universities regarding curriculum and training experiences appropriate for teacher certification;
 - (4) To establish requirements for initial teaching licenses in Wisconsin;
 - (5) To establish for maintenance and renewal of teaching licenses;
 - (6) To approve applications and issue initial teaching license renewals;
- (7) To advise school districts and state and local teacher organizations regarding structures and systems which support effective teaching;
- (8) To promote a national board for professional teaching standards, certification and to assist licensed Wisconsin teachers in achieving board certification;
 - (9) To establish standards and criteria for suspension and revocation of licenses;
- (10) To conduct due process hearings to adjudicate disciplinary actions, including revocation and suspension of teaching licenses;
- (11) To recommend peer assistance and peer mentoring models including evaluation systems and teacher dismissal alternative procedures, for consideration by school districts and employe unions; and
- (12) To report annually to the Wisconsin Legislature on the conduct of the board's responsibilities.

Mr. Lentz indicated the membership board would consist of 11 members appointed for staggered, three-year terms including seven educators employed in Wisconsin's public schools, six of whom are licensed K-12 classroom teachers. He suggested that of these six, at least two would be elementary classroom teachers, two secondary classroom teachers, one special services teacher and one additional teacher from any of the above categories. Mr. Lentz indicated that the seventh member of the board as proposed would be a school district administrator. These board members under the proposal would be appointed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction from a list of candidates submitted by constituent member organizations. Mr. Lentz indicated that the balance of the board would consist of the following four members: one faculty member in the Department or College of Education in the University of Wisconsin (UW) System appointed by the President of the UW System; one faculty member in a department or college of education from a private college or university in Wisconsin appointed by the Governor; one representative from Wisconsin business and industry appointed by the Governor and one representative of the public appointed by the Governor.

Mr. Lentz outlined the duties of the executive director and indicated that the proposal envisions the selection of the chairperson by the members of the board. Mr. Lentz indicated that

12 states have adopted a state teacher standards board or commission and provided information on the operations of these boards to the Committee. Mr. Lentz reviewed for the Committee the extensive changes that have taken place in education over the past 25 years. He indicated that these changes have affected not only the students who learn in the classrooms but the teachers who teach these students. He also noted the enormous expansion and the knowledge base over that period as well as the increased diversity in school populations and the growth and the need for additional skills in order to function effectively in society and in careers. He noted that all these changes point to a need for increased professionalism in the regulation of teachers in teacher preparation.

Mr. Lentz noted the description in the materials he distributed of two approaches to professional board regulation in Minnesota and Indiana. In response to a question, he indicated that all the elements of the proposal are subject to additional discussion and further refinement.

In response to a question regarding the authority of the board, Mr. Lentz indicated that, as proposed, it would function and operate as an entity independent from DPI.

Senator Rude questioned the legality of replacing a current function of the State Superintendent with an independent board. He also noted that the professional regulation model for other professions, such as the medical area has had problems as well as benefits. For at least some professions the creation of a board can result in a greater focus on the protection of professionals, rather than the protection of the public.

In response to a question, Mr. Lentz stated that the proposal does not turn authority over to the union but to an appointed board. He suggested that DPI could continue to "prosecute" cases—with the union defending teachers and the board deciding on the appropriate action. He also suggested that multi-person panels could be used to adjudicate some cases. Mr. Lentz pointed out that currently revocation is the only sanctioning option available and that the standards board, if established, could be authorized to utilize reprimands, suspensions and other types of sanctions. Professor Kean asked how current members are appointed to regulation and licensing boards. Mr. Whitesel responded that those appointments are generally made by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Chairperson Grobschmidt indicated that there is some involvement by the professions in the selections made by the Governor.

Ms. Diez suggested that a strong link to national standards provides not only the opportunity for improvement, but also protection for training programs seeking to meet higher standards. Mr. Lentz, in a response to a question, suggested that the board could serve as an important resource and opportunity for a dialogue between the various groups interested in teachers and teacher education. Ms. Bird asked how local school boards could be more involved in the process. Mr. Lentz indicated that there would be several ways in which to accomplish this and there may be reason to modify the proposal to increase local school board participation.

In response to a question from Chairperson Grobschmidt regarding the makeup of the board, Mr. Lentz indicated that there was a firm WEAC preference for a majority or near majority of the board to consist of classroom teachers. He stated that it was essential that the board be practitioner-based. Representative Lazich indicated that involvement by practitioners is important but that there is a need to have a greater "balance" in the membership. She indicated that many examining boards are dominated by the professional members on the boards. She suggested that the Committee consider a greater balance on the board so that it is not as heavily weighted on the teacher side.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR TEACHER EDUCATION AND LICENSURE

1996-97

Expiration Date of Term Name Position June 30, 1999 Jeffrey Barnett Higher Education College of Education University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Winther Hall, Room 2030 Whitewater WI 53190 (W)(414) 472-1101 June 30, 1997 Steve Behar Teacher 2017 Huntington Place Delavan WI 53115 (W)(414) 728-2642 ext. 4477 **School Administration** June 30, 1997 Gary Beyer North Wisconsin District Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod P O Box 8064 Wausau WI 54402-8064 (W)(715) 845-8241 (H)(715) 355-4793 Brynda Cox Teacher June 30, 1998 733 West Cedar Street Chippewa Falls WI 54729 (H)(715) 723-3826 (W)(715) 720-3750 June 30, 1997 Kathleen Daly Higher Education College of Education University of Wisconsin-River Falls 410 S 3rd Street River Falls WI 54022 (w)(715) 425-3774 fax(715) 425-0622 e-mail: Kathleen.L.Daly@uwrf.edu

Don Ernest Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association 5130 West Vliet Street Milwaukee WI 53208 (W)(414) 259-1990	Teacher	June 30, 1999
Pam Hill 1950 1st Street N Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494 (H)(715) 423-2753	Teacher	June 30, 1999
Marlene Hoffmann 2726 Maple Road Jackson WI 53037 (414) 677-2003 fax (414) 677-1855	Lay Citizen	June 30, 1997
Peg Janssen 13780 Hope Street Brookfield WI 53005 (W)(414) 781-3030 ext. 114	School Administration	June 30, 1997
Mazie Jenkins 1846 Northwestern Avenue Madison WI 53704 (w)(608) 267-4262 (h)(608) 241-4269	Teacher	June 30, 1999
Bruce King 3002 Seymour Eau Claire WI 54701 (w)(715) 835-1313	Lay Citizen	June 30, 1998
Jeanetta Kirkpatrick Kickapoo School District Route 2, Box 63 Viola WI 54664 (W)(608) 627-0101 (H)(608) 629-5588 e-mail - JKpf@pop.mwt.net	School Administration	June 30, 1998
Sydney Lindner 501 South Prospect Avenue Madison WI 53711 (AM) (608) 266-1019 (PM) (608) 259-8202	Student	June 30, 1999

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June 30, 1997

Molly Murray 3188 County Trunk P Mount Horeb WI 53572

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June 30, 1999

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June 30, 1999

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Lay Citizen

June 30, 1999

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School Administration

June 30, 1997

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Department of Public Instruction P O Box 7841 Madison, WI 53707

Jacqueline W. Rodman, Liaison (W)(608) 267-9263

Delores Small, Program Assistant (W)(608) 266-0933



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF

David J. Stute Director



Suite 401 One East Main Street P.O. Box 2536 Madison, WI 53701–2536 (608) 266–1304 FAX (608) 266–3830

1947-1997

Our 50th Anniversary of Service to the Legislature

December 3, 1997

TO:

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

FROM:

David J. Stute, Director

Enclosed, for your information, is a copy of Joint Legislative Council Report No. 5 to the 1997 Legislature, *Legislation on Teacher Preparation, Licensure and Regulation*, dated December 2, 1997.

1997 Senate Bill 364, relating to creating a professional standards council for teachers, has been scheduled to be considered by your Committee on Wednesday, December 10, 1997, beginning at 10:00 a.m., in the Joint Finance Area of the Senate Chambers, 119 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Senior Staff Attorneys Russ Whitesel, at 266-0922, or Ron Sklansky, at 266-1946.

DJS:wu;ksm

Enclosure

The following document was too large to scan into the committee record. The cover and table of contents, if available, have been scanned for your convenience.

Most large publications have been added to the Dr. H. Rupert Theobald Legislative Library collection. Search the LRB library catalog (LRBCat) (http://lrbcat.legis.wisconsin.gov/) for availability.

For further assistance, please contact the reference desk at (608) 266-0341 or email lrb.reference@legis.wisconsin.gov.

State of Wisconsin - Legislative Reference Bureau 1 East Main Street, Suite 200 Madison, WI 53703

Revised: 12/05/2012





STATE OF WISCONSIN JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

REPORT NO. 5 TO THE 1997 LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATION ON TEACHER PREPARATION, LICENSURE AND REGULATION

1997 SENATE BILL 364,

Relating to Creating a Professional Standards Council for Teachers

Legislative Council Staff
December 3, 1997

One East Main Street, Suite 401 Madison, Wisconsin

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REPORT NO. 5 TO THE 1997 LEGISLATURE*

LEGISLATION ON TEACHER PREPARATION, LICENSURE AND REGULATION

CONTENTS

		<u>Page</u>
PART I:	KEY PROVISIONS OF LEGISLATION; COMMITTEE AND JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL VOTE	. 3
	A. 1997 Senate Bill 364	. 3
<u>PART II:</u>	COMMITTEE ACTIVITY	. 7
	A. Assignment B. Summary of Meetings C. Staff Materials	. /
<u>PART III:</u>	BACKGROUND; DESCRIPTION OF BILL	. 13
	A. Background B. Description of Bill	. 13
<u>APPENDIX 1:</u>	LIST OF JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS	. 17
APPENDIX 2:	LIST OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS	. 19
APPENDIX 3:	COMMITTEE MATERIALS	. 21

^{*} This Report was prepared by Russ Whitesel, Senior Staff Attorney, Legislative Council Staff. Also available at www.legis.state.wi.us/lc



REMARKS OF SENATOR RICHARD GROBSCHMIDT, CHAIRPERSON, SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON TEACHER PREPARATION, LICENSURE AND REGULATION TO THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE ON DECEMBER 10, 1997

Good morning. As you know, I served as Chairperson of the Joint Legislative Council's Special Committee on Teacher Preparation, Licensure and Regulation. It is a pleasure to be here and present to you the report and the legislative recommendation of our Committee. I understand that both the Committee report and the recommended bill--Senate Bill 364--have been distributed to you prior to this meeting so I will not take an extended period of time to review the report or the Bill.

However, I would be remiss if I did not report to you on the hard work and diligence of our Committee and on the diversity of experience that the members brought to this very timely issue.

Moreover, as is noted in the Committee report, we had excellent presentations made by experts on the local, state and national level to assist us in our review.

If I were asked to summarize the consensus of the Committee based on their experience and review, I would say this: that the

success of other educational reforms such as testing, setting higher academic standards for students and establishing greater accountability for education is directly dependent upon the skill, knowledge and preparation of teachers. If we care about our educational system and we care about the students who are in the educational system, then we must pay special attention to the needs and training of the teachers who are in the classroom.

Senate Bill 364 creates a professional standards council for teachers within the Department of Public Instruction. The primary role of the council would be to assist the State Superintendent in improving teacher preparation, licensure and regulation. There is currently no existing statutory mechanism to review, propose or revise teacher preparation policies. This council would fill that need. The 17 members of the council—a majority of whom would be teachers—would be chosen in the manner described on pages 8 and 9 of the Committee report and pages 3 and 4 of the Bill. The duties of the council are set forth on pages 9 and 10 of the report and on pages 5 and 6 of the Bill.

I would be glad to provide additional information on the recommendations of the Committee or to answer any of your questions.



WISCONSIN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

Affiliated with the National Education Association

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

December 10, 1997

IN SUPPORT OF SB 364, Professional Standards Council

Charles Lentz, Wisconsin Education Association Council

BACKGROUND:

Since the A Nation at Risk report in 1982, policy makers in each of the states have been calling for ideas which would build accountability for quality in public education. There has been consistent agreement that accountability is an essential ingredient for success, but over time there has not been sufficient concurrence on the focus, form and application of accountability measures.

In September, 1996, the National Commission on Teaching for America's Future issued its recommendations in the report, What Matters Most: Teaching for America's Future:

- * Get serious about standards for both students and teachers;
- * Reinvent teacher preparation and professional development;
- * Overhaul teacher recruitment to ensure qualified teachers in every classroom;
- * Encourage and reward teaching knowledge and skill;
- * Create schools that are organized to generate success

One of the policy conditions which the Commission urges is the creation of a Professional Standards Board. There are currently twelve states which have the type of Board/Commission which the report recommends—a majority voice for teachers and autonomous authority to address professional standards. (California, Oregon, Nevada, Wyoming, North Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Indiana, Kentucky, West Virginia, Georgia.) Of the remaining 38 states, some have advisory bodies with limited purpose, authority and accountability.

Wisconsin is among those states which has no formal legislative policy addressing professional standards.

Terry Craney, President Charles N. Lentz, Executive Secretary

WISCONSIN CIRCUMSTANCES:

During the past several years, WEAC has had discussions with leadership of both political parties in both houses of the legislature about the need to create a system for on-going review of:

quality of teacher training; standards for achieving and maintaining certification; effective classroom practices

Those discussions eventually led to the creation by the Joint Legislative Council of a Special Committee on Teacher Preparation, Licensure and Regulation.

Wisconsin already enjoys a reputation for educational quality as continuously demonstrated by high national rankings such as the SAT and the ACT. However, the history of quality is due more to the effort and resolve at the classroom, school, and local district levels than it is to articulated legislative policy. Yet the increasing complexities of education, as noted by National Commission, will require systemic support through legislative policy.

Wisconsin Constitution:

The Wisconsin Supreme Court held in *Thompson v. Craney* that the constitutional powers and authority of the state superintendent to oversee public education could not be delegated by the legislature to another state agent or agency. Consequently, any legislative policy must work compatibly with the powers of the state superintendent and within the structure of the Department of Public Instruction (DPI).

Department of Public Instruction:

The DPI has established through its discretionary authority an "advisory council" to the state superintendent consisting of 18 members, 5 of whom are teachers, appointed by the state superintendent to advise upon request on matters identified by the state superintendent.

Special Committee on Teacher Preparation, Licensure and Regulation:

While noting the supreme court's ruling and the DPI "advisory council", the Committee ultimately determined that a **Professional Standards Council** should be created by the legislature to ensure that the conditions which establish quality in teaching will be continuously reviewed and addressed.

RATIONALE FOR SB 364:

The Special Committee's proposal creates a 17 member Professional Standards Council, 9 of whom are classroom teachers, appointed by the state superintendent to advise at the Council's initiative on issues consistent with the statutorily defined duties of the Council.

Accountability:

SB 364 is not about control, it is about accountability.

As teaching practitioners, classroom teachers have historically been isolated from the many decisions which define the teacher preparation curriculum, pedagogy and teaching practices, certification standards, and performance. Yet, increasingly teachers have been challenged to "assume responsibility" for the quality of the education experience and the success of students.

How? Without a vehicle for initiating or merely influencing decisions, without the status of a partnership interest, without the authority of participation, teachers are denied the opportunity to assume responsibility. Yet they have the capacity: they wish to assume responsibility for the standards of their profession, they desire to be accountable, and they, more than any other, have the knowledge and the ability.

Advisory Initiative:

There is a significant difference between invitation and initiative. The current arrangement is wholly dependent on the invitation and discretion of the state superintendent. The proposed legislation, by contrast, assures the profession a majority voice and the authority to initiate recommendations on issues which are fundamental to the quality and success of the teaching profession.

Need for Professional Accountability:

Wisconsin's history of educational quality is one of the envied characteristics of the state. Why modify conditions which have a record of success?

Whether the success of Wisconsin's public schools is attributable to the current structure or only coincidental to it, the future of education is not necessarily defined by the dynamics of the past.

Education is becoming increasingly--almost exponentially--complex. There is a growing base of knowledge to be taught; there is increasing diversity among students and their circumstances, and there is a greater need for multiple approaches in pedagogy, strategy and practice. Wisconsin needs a Professional Standards Council to shape and strengthen the education profession so that it can prepare students for their adult lives, which lie in a complex and possibly difficult future.

The education profession itself needs a Professional Standards Council. There are many discussions about many ideas to improve education and to better serve students. They are generated by one organizational interest or another, by one institutional agency or another, and they occasionally have some influence or effect. But overall, there is not a central framework in which the many good ideas and efforts converge into a cohesive policy deliberation. The Professional Standards Council as proposed in SB 364 would create that framework and could meld the separate initiatives of the larger education community--teachers, high education academics, curriculum interests, parents and students-into a common policy effort.



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



WANS MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS



Christian Schools International

District IV

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Diocese of Green Bay

Diocese of LaCrosse

Diocese of Madison

Diocese of Superior

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Northern Wisconsin District

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod Southern Wisconsin District

Wisconsin Conference of Seventh Day Adventists

Wisconsin Association of Independent Schools

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

TO: Committee Members, Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Sharon L. Schmeling, Executive Secretary

DATE: December 10, 1997

RE: Senate Bill 364 -- Professional Standards Council for Teachers

I am Sharon Schmeling, the Executive Secretary of the Wisconsin Association of Nonpublic Schools, testifying for information only on Senate Bill 364.

As the largest nonpublic school organization in the state, the Wisconsin Association of Nonpublic Schools (WANS) represents over 700 of the state's 980 private schools, which enroll 15 percent of the state's school children.

The schools in our Association enroll 128,000 of Wisconsin's 148,000 nonpublic school students. Our schools employ 13 percent of the state's elementary and secondary school teachers, the vast majority of whom are licensed by the state.

While the state does not mandate licensure of nonpublic school teachers, 75 percent of WANS school teachers are licensed. And 90 percent of Catholic school teachers, representing the largest single nonpublic school system in the state, are licensed. This high rate of voluntary licensure is the result of nonpublic school systems requiring teachers to be licensed and because teachers themselves value the freedom of being able to move between the public and private school systems.

This voluntary compliance with state licensure saves taxpayers the cost of enforcing a statutory mandate while also enhancing the overall quality of education in Wisconsin. Because of the licensure system, licensed nonpublic school teachers are subject to the same criminal background checks as public school teachers. Because nonpublic school systems hold licensure in high esteem, they pay attention to DPI notices about teachers who have lost their licenses.

Our Association strongly supports exceptional standards for teachers and teacher accountability. However, we do not believe that Senate Bill 364 advances those goals beyond what is already available under the DPI Superintendent's current Advisory Council for Teacher Education and Certification. Nor does the make-up of the proposed council reflect the diversity of education in Wisconsin.

It would be unwise for the state to create a new council charged with such important input into the teacher licensure process unless the council more fully reflects the diversity of teachers who are licensed by the state, as does the DPI's current Advisory Council, which has included a nonpublic school representative for several years.

We are concerned that without a diversity of membership, the proposed council will change teacher licensure from a professional credential to a public school sector credential. This is both inadvisable and short-sighted. It would also be at odds with the state's license requirements for other professionals. Doctors, for example, are licensed to practice medicine; they are not licensed or put through a process that allows practicing medicine only in the state's public hospitals.

We are further concerned that without representation from nonpublic school teachers, the proposed council may devise methods or other processes that work to exclude nonpublic school teachers and unwittingly play a role in making state licensure less desirable for them.

This is the case currently with one proposal under consideration by the DPI. Among other things, it requires first year teachers to participate in a mentoring program before they can be licensed but provides no means by which first year teachers in nonpublic schools can fulfill that requirement. This should be of special concern because many first year teachers choose to begin their careers in nonpublic schools, gaining valuable nurturing and training there before moving on to teach in public schools.

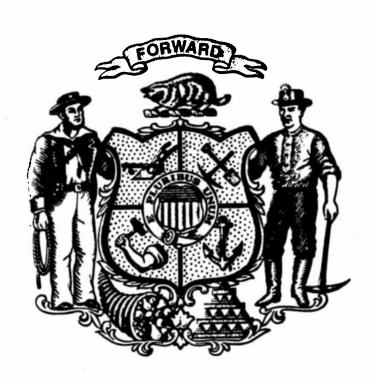
A simple remedy to the lack of diversity may be to expand the council by two people to include a nonpublic elementary school teacher and a nonpublic secondary school teacher.

A solution to our concern about nonpublic school teachers being given equal opportunity to achieve licensure might be accomplished by stipulating that the Council must provide equitable opportunities for nonpublic school teachers to complete any new licensure procedures or programs.

Despite our preference for such changes, however, in all honesty our Association wonders whether the council is really necessary, given that such an entity already exists at the DPI. It would seem more prudent and cost-effective to expand the scope and duties of the existing council to address those issues of concern not currently being reviewed.

We encourage you to consider this straightforward and simple option.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.





WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF MEMORANDUM

One East Main Street, Suite 401; P.O. Box 2536; Madison, WI 53701-2536 Telephone (608) 266-1304 Fax (608) 266-3830

DATE:

January 6, 1998

TO:

SENATOR CALVIN POTTER, CHAIRPERSON; MEMBERS OF THE

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE; AND OTHER INTERESTED

LEGISLATORS

FROM:

Russ Whitesel, Senior Staff Attorney

SUBJECT:

Senate Amendment 1 to 1997 Senate Bill 364, Relating to Creating a

Professional Standards Council for Teachers

This memorandum describes the changes made to 1997 Senate Bill 364 by Senate Amendment 1 to the Bill. The memorandum also provides legislative background information on the Bill.

A. LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

Senate Bill 364 was introduced on November 26, 1997 by the Joint Legislative Council and referred to the Senate Committee on Education. A public hearing was held before the Senate Education Committee on December 10, 1997. An executive session was held on the Bill on the same date.

At the executive session of the Committee, Senate Amendment 1 was introduced and adopted. The Bill was recommended for passage as amended on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0.

B. PROVISIONS OF SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 makes the following changes in the original legislation:

- 1. The original Bill created a statutory professional standards council for teachers in the Department of Public Instruction. The council, in the original Bill, consisted of 17 members. Senate Amendment 1 adds the following two members to the statutory council:
- a. One person licensed as a teacher and employed in a private school, recommended by the Wisconsin Association of Nonpublic Schools.

- b. One additional member of a public school board. The original legislation provided for one member of a public school board to be a member of the council. The additional member would also be nominated by the Wisconsin School Board Association.
- 2. Under the provisions of Senate Amendment 1, all members of the council would be required to be confirmed by the state Senate. Various provisions of the statutes are changed by the amendment to clarify how resignations, replacements and vacancies would be handled under the statutes. It should be noted that Senate confirmation is currently not required for the appointment of any council currently operating in state government.
- 3. In order to reduce confusion, the terminology in the original legislation regarding nominations to the council has been changed to refer to "recommendations" for appointment to the council. The amendment also provides for staggering of new member terms to coincide with the other appointments to the council.

Senate Amendment 1 makes no further changes in the original legislation.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, you may contact me directly at the Legislative Council Staff offices.

RW:rv:wu;ksm



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



TEACHER LICENSE ADVISORY COUNCIL

				•					Dutles	Terms	Appointment	Nomination		Composition	Members	Hesponsibility	Authority	
	 Prepare and report an annual summary of the Council's actions and recommendations to the state superintendent. 	 h. Heview the budget requests for the Ildensure and program approval functions within the DPI and make recommendations to the state superintendent related to these requests. 		Review annually the activities of the Department of Public Instruction (DP) relating the approval of school personnel education programs and the issuance of licenses in order to advise the state superintendent. Receive complaints, suggestions or inquiries on matters regarding licensure.	e Propose to the state superintendent policies and procedures for evaluating the affectiveness of programs for the preparation of school personnel.	d. Propose to the state superintendent standards for the approval of preparation programs for school personnel.	 Propose to the state superintendent policies and procedures to ensure that school personnel in the public schools are employed within their respective areas of licensing. 	 b. Propose to the state superintendent guidelines to be used in the issuance of all types of licenses to school personnel. 	a. Propose to the state superintendent requirements for licensure of school personnel.	staggered 3 year	state superintendent	not required	1 post-secondary student	4 school administrators 4 higher education representatives	18 10(3)	All Licenses	Administrative Rulo Pl 3,59	Current DPI Council
j. At the request of the state superintendent, review and assess complaints, suggestions or inquiries relating to licensure, programs for the preparation of school personnet or other educational matters and advise the state superintendent as to an appropriate response or action.	 Propose to the state superintendent alternative procedures for the preparation and licensure of teachers. 	ਣ	g. Advise the state superintendent on effective peer assistance and peer mentoring models, including evaluation systems, and alternative teacher dismissal procedures for consideration by school districts and labor	f. Propose to the state superintendent methods to support recognition of excellence in teaching including the national board for professional teaching standards, master educator licensure and others, and assist state leachers in achieving master teacher certification in the state of Wisconsin.	 e. Propose to the state superintendent standards, criteria, and review procedures for the revocation of a teaching license. 	d. Propose to the state superintendent policies and practices for school districts and state and local teacher organizations to utilize in developing effective teaching systems.	c. Provide to the state superintendent an ongoing assessment of the complexities of teaching and the status of the teaching profession in this state.	 b. Propose to the state superintendent standards for evaluating and approving leacher preparation programs including continuing education programs. 	 Advise the state superintendent standards for certification and licensure including initial licensure and maintenance and renewal of licenses to ensure the effective teaching of a relevant curriculum in Wisconsin schools. 	slaggered 3 year	stale superintendent	labor or professional organizations	1 parent 1 student	2 administrators 3 higher education		13 letal:	Statute ss15,377(8)	Proposed Council

Subchapter XV — Advisory Council

- Pl 3.69 Advisory council. The state superintendent shall appoint a broadly based, representative advisory council for teacher education and licensure, as described in this section.
- (1) MEMBERSHIP (a) The advisory council shall consist of the following members:
 - 1. Five practicing teachers.
 - 2. Four school administrators.
 - 3. Four higher education representatives.
 - 4. Four lay citizens,
 - 5. One post-secondary school student.
- (b) Members in the several categories shall be selected by the state superintendent in a manner that maximizes diversity of educational perspectives.
- (2) TERMS OF OFFICE. (a) The term of office shall be for 3 consecutive years.
- (b) Terms of office shall be staggered to provide for the expiration of the terms of only one—third of the members annually for continuity in the membership and council functioning.
- (c) A member shall serve no more than 2 consecutive full 3-year terms.
- (d) The term of office shall begin on July 1 and expire on June 30.
- (e) A member whose classification has changed should have his or her term expire immediately and vacate the position so that an interim appointment can be made of someone who fulfills the requirements for representing that classification.
- (3) DUTIES. (a) Propose to the state superintendent requirements for licensure of school personnel.
- (b) Propose to the state superintendent guidelines to be used in the issuance of all types of licenses to school personnel.
- (c) Propose to the state superintendent policies and procedures to insure that school personnel in the public schools are employed within their respective areas of licensing.
- (d) Propose to the state superintendent standards for the approval of preparation programs for school personnel.
- (e) Propose to the state superintendent policies and procedures for evaluating the effectiveness of programs for the preparation of school personnel.
- (f) Review annually the activities of the department relating to the approval of school personnel education programs and to the issuance of licenses in order to advise the state superintendent.
- (g) Receive complaints, suggestions, or inquiries on matters regarding licensure and programs for preparation of school personnel, inquire into such complaints, suggestions, or inquiries, and, if appropriate, advise the state superintendent of action to be taken.
- (h) Review the budget requests for the licensure and program approval functions within the department and make recommendations to the state superintendent related to these requests.
- (i) Prepare and report an annual summary of its actions and recommendations to the state superintendent.

History: Cr Register, April, 1988, No. 388, ett. 5-1-88